



HQ CIVIL WORKS ENGINEERING and CONSTRUCTION NOTES

Volume III Number 11

10 August 1998

Notes from Phil Brown, Acting Chief, Engineering and Construction Division

During the time between Steve Stockton's departure (17 July) for South Pacific Division and Carl Enson's arrival for duty on 31 August, it will be full speed ahead for Engineering and Construction Division. There are a number of decision documents for Dam Safety Assurance Program projects that must be processed and there are several task groups reviewing our business processes.

A number of Divisions have been asking about the private sector contracting goals for Fiscal Year 1999 (FY99). While these goals cannot be set until either an appropriation bill or a continuing resolution is passed by Congress and signed by the President, our best guidance at this time is based on the Districts FORCON submittal. The FY99 program, as submitted, contains sufficient contracting to meet the Corps target for the year. The level of contracting is similar to the current (FY98) level; therefore, if the Districts and Divisions plan to execute their FY99 program in a manner similar to FY98, the Corps will make its FY99 targets. However, the equation for FY99 will probably change to a corporate equation, which will include the full organization and not just the engineering and planning elements.

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We are also reviewing the budgeting and expenditure of Civil Works S&A and E&D rates. Construction Branch is handling the S&A review, which is straightforward and is based on contract payments. The E&D review is being reviewed and evaluated by a 10-member task group comprised of both MSC and District staff, which met on 4 and 5 August for their initial discussions. Since E&D includes many elements other than engineering (e.g. Planning, PCA's, Real Estate, etc.), the task group will be recommending that the indicator be Project Development Costs (PDC) ratio instead of E&D. This may allow us to account for the differences in the level of engineering in the feasibility and PED phases of Civil Works projects. Look for more information on the PDC ratio in September. Although not complete, the restructuring of the

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Engineering Division to include the transfer of Construction Branch from the Operations Division is still on track and in the final phase. We are waiting for the CW Directorate Manpower Management Document (MMD) to be finalized by CERM and then the paper work can be processed. In the meantime we are treating the Construction Branch as if they are already here.

Again, Engineering and Construction Division is fully open for business during this transition period. Districts and Divisions should feel free to telephone me or send me E-mail on any matter requiring action by this Headquarters. [Phil Brown, (202) 761-4536]

CURRENT NEWS FROM CW-E

New Engineering and Construction Chiefs Telephone and Mailing List

An electronic copy of the new Engineering and Construction Chiefs Telephone and Mailing List has been transmitted to all Divisions and Districts.

Changes in the listings should be submitted to Charles.M.Pearre@usace.army.mil. Also, additional copies of the listing can be obtained from the same address. [Pearre, (202) 761-4531]

Additional Students Needed for PROSPECT Courses

Two Engineering sponsored PROSPECT courses are in danger of not being offered during Fiscal Year 1999. These courses are listed below. Offices interested in having students added to the course roster for either of these courses should contact their training office and the course manager as soon as possible. [Pearre, (202) 761-4531]

Civil Design for Planning PROSPECT Course

The Civil Design for Planning Course (PROSPECT #218) is again being offered 14-18 June 1999 in Sacramento (Session 99-01). This 36 hour course outlines the Corps Civil Works process, and covers design activities and processes for project implementation from reconnaissance through project construction, with a focus on the planning stages. It provides a broad overview and explains the steps and integrates the technical disciplines necessary to successfully accomplish a project. The course can be used as an introduction for employees relatively new to Civil Works project implementation, but also provides an excellent refresher and update for staff currently working in the program. It is suitable for all disciplines and organizations involved in Civil Works project implementation. Additional information can be obtained from the Course Proponent, Bob Bank. If you want to sign up, call the Course Manager, Janie Hughes, in Huntsville, (256) 895-7440, or send her an e-mail. [Bank, (202) 761-1660]

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Paint Coatings Submersible PROSPECT Course

The Paint Coatings Submersible Course (PROSPECT #083) is again being offered 25-29 January 1999 in Champaign, IL (Session 99-01). This 36-hour course covers painting requirements for Corps Civil Works structures, e.g., lock and spillway gates and valves, penstocks, spiral cases, draft tube liners, and flood control and water supply pumps. It provides information for new construction, maintenance and major rehabilitation projects concerning selecting and specifying coating systems, application and equipment requirements and about inspection and testing requirements. It also covers safety and the continually changing environmental regulations. It is suitable for all disciplines involved in the painting or coating of CW hydraulic structures. Al Beitelman (217-373-7237) can provide additional technical information about the course and Joy Rodriguez (205-895-7448), the course manager in Huntsville, can provide enrollment information. [Casapulla, (202) 761-4535]

Water Control Data System (WCDS) Update

The WCDS software modernization project is in the second year of a five-year development period. A combined meeting of the Corps User's Representative Group (CURG) and System Design and Testing (SDT) teams was held to review project progress, revisit identified system requirements, and discuss emerging issues. A prototype of Version 1.0 implemented for Bald Eagle Creek (Baltimore District) was the focal point of the meeting. The prototype (a partially completed Version 1.0) gave the CURG/SDT a first opportunity to visualize the modernized WCDS. The CURG/SDT found the development project to be on schedule, within budget, and in accordance with their documented requirements. The system requirements specifications will be updated (minor) in response to the comments of the CURG/SDT and priorities slightly changed. The meeting was held at the System Developer offices (HEC) 23 - 25 June 1998. [Juhle, (202) 761-8512]

CW-E INFORMATION

Combined Civil Works and Military Guide Specifications

In keeping with the "one door to the Corps" policy, guide specifications for military construction (CEGS-series) and guide specifications for Civil Works construction (CWGS-series) will be combined into a single system of Corps of Engineers guide specifications effective 1 October 1998. It has always been the policy that CEGS and CWGS specifications could be used for either type of construction when applicable, even though the specifications have been maintained as separate systems. Even in the combined system some specifications will be more applicable to one type of construction than the other.

The combined system is expected to increase efficiencies in the production and maintenance of guide

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specifications, eliminate existing duplications of subject matter, and generally improve document quality. The initial phase of the transition will occur about 15 September 1998 with the implementation of a coordinated numbering system for the documents, change in designation from “CWGS” to “CEGS”, and minimal adjustments of document text. The combined system will continue to be fully compatible with the SPECSINTACT software, and the primary distribution methods will continue to be the web site TECHINFO and the National Institute of Building Sciences Construction Criteria Base (CCB) system.

Both the Civil Works and Military Programs Engineering and Construction Divisions will keep your staff informed as we near 1 October. However, your staff should log on to the “TECHINFO” web site maintained by the Huntsville Engineering Support Center, which posts all Corps guide specs.

Points-of-contact for combining the guide specs are Rick Dahnke, CEMP-ET (202-761-1203) and Charles Baldi, CECW-EP, (202-761-8894). [Baldi, (202) 761-4531]

DID YOU KNOW

Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) Standards

In order for the Corps of Engineers to efficiently move into the twenty-first century and use the virtual office in the design process, it is essential that all districts use the same standards when using CADD technology. Therefore, all Corps Districts must use the most current version of the Tri-Service A/E/C Standards for CADD systems usage. All CADD produced projects, which are 35%, or less complete shall henceforth comply with the standards. A copy of the standards can be downloaded from the Internet at <http://tsc.wes.army.mil>. A hard copy can be obtained from the Tri-Service CADD/GIS Technology Center (CEWES-ID-C), 3909 Halls Ferry Road, Vicksburg, Mississippi 39180.

This required was reemphasized in the memorandum from the Director of Military Programs dated 9 July 1998. The subject of the memorandum is “Architectural, Engineering and Construction (A/E/C) Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) Standards”. A copy of the memorandum is included in appendix A. [Miles, (202) 761-8885]

YOU ASKED

The following statement was submitted from Northwestern Division.

“A minor point perhaps, but you use the acronym "CWE", which I assume is Civil Works

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Engineering. It should be changing with the addition of Construction; however, it has always been the official acronym for "Current Working Estimate" of an ongoing construction contract. A little confusing to some of us, but not insurmountable."

Response: To eliminate any confusion, the use of "CWE" for Civil Works Engineering Division has been changed to "CW-E" which is the last part of the division's office symbol. Thanks for calling this to our attention. [Pearre, (202) 761-4531]

Questions are needed by the 15th of the month for the next issue of HQ CIVIL WORKS ENGINEERING NOTES. Questions can be sent by FAX to (202) 761-4002 or by e-mail to Charles Pearre. [Pearre, (202) 761-4531]

DAM SAFETY PROGRAM

1998 ASDSO Annual Conference

The 1998 ASDSO Annual Conference is scheduled for 11-14 October 1998 at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. The conference will include a number of technical case studies in dam rehabilitation and an update on the National Dam Safety Program including the National Inventory of Dams. All Corps of Engineers personnel working with the Dam Safety Program are encouraged to attend. For additional information see the ASDSO home page at <http://members.aol.com/damsafety/homepage.htm>. [Pearre, (202) 761-4531]

FIELD INFO TO SHARE

No field information was received for this month's notes.

Districts are encouraged to submit information for this section. Also, tell us your ideas on how HQ CW-E can do it better and what you would like to know about. Your information is needed by the 15th of the month for the next issue. [Wallace, (202) 761-8890]

REMINDER

These HQ Civil Works Engineering and Construction Notes are now available on the Internet approximately three days after publication. You can access the Notes directly at <http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwe/notes/>.

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APPENDIX A

Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) Standards

CEMP-EE/CECW-EP

09 July 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Architectural, Engineering and Construction (A/E/C) Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) Standards

1. Engineering Circular (EC) No. 25-1-243, Rescission, which was issued 30 June 1996 and expired 30 June 1998, rescinded Engineer Manual (EM) 1110-1-1807, Standards Manual for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers CADD Systems, Parts 1-4. The EC additionally stipulates that users of CADD systems must use the latest version of the Tri-Service CADD/Geographic Information System (GIS) Technology Center's A/E/C CADD Standards.
2. In order for the Corps of Engineers to efficiently move into the twenty-first century and use the virtual office in the design process, it is essential that all districts use the same standards when using CADD technology. Therefore, all Corps Districts must use the most current version of the Tri-Service A/E/C Standards for CADD systems usage. All CADD produced projects, which are 35% or less complete, shall henceforth comply with the standards. A copy of the standards can be downloaded from the internet at <http://tsc.wes.army.mil>. A hard copy can be obtained from the Tri-Service CADD/GIS Technology Center (CEWES-ID-C), 3909 Halls Ferry Road, Vicksburg, MS 39180.
3. The points of contact at HQUSACE are Mrs. Jean McGinn (202-761-1052) in the Military Programs Directorate, and Mr. M.K. Miles (202-761-8885) in the Civil Works Directorate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Encl

/s/
MILTON HUNTER
Major General, USA
Director of Military Programs

DISTRIBUTION:

All Commands and FOA's